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China, Peoples Republic of FAIRS Export Certificate Report Annual 2007

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Report Highlights:

This report lists major export certificates required by the Chinese government from exporters of food and agricultural products. For more information on import requirements, see GAIN CH7066.

Includes PSD Changes: No
Includes Trade Matrix: No
Annual Report
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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY & DISCLAIMER

This report was prepared by the Office of Agricultural Affairs of the USDA/Foreign Agricultural Service in Beijing, China for U.S. exporters of domestic food and agricultural products. While every possible care was taken in the preparation of this report, information provided may not be completely accurate either because policies have changed since its preparation, or because clear and consistent information about these policies was not available. It is highly recommended that U.S. exporters verify the full set of import requirements with their foreign customers, who are normally best equipped to research such matters with local authorities, before any goods are shipped. FINAL IMPORT APPROVAL OF ANY PRODUCT IS SUBJECT TO THE IMPORTING COUNTRY'S RULES AND REGULATIONS AS INTERPRETED BY BORDER OFFICIALS AT THE TIME OF PRODUCT ENTRY.

SECTION I. LIST OF ALL EXPORT CERTIFICATES REQUIRED BY GOVERNMENT

China has strict documentation requirements for imported food and agricultural products. The certifications for quality, quarantine, and import control are required for the majority of products entering the country. The information required to gain entry varies between products and product categories. In addition, many regulations and requirements are updated frequently and often without prior notice. Although China has notified to the WTO only 101 sanitary and phytosanitary measures since joining the WTO on December 11, 2001, the number of changes is believed to be higher.

These rapid changes in Chinese regulations are expected to accelerate. In July 2007, the Standardization Administration of China (SAC) announced plans to revise up to 4,000 of China's food safety standards, particularly in the areas of food additives, dairy, meat and eggs, and fisheries. Up to the end of 2006, China has 634 mandatory food safety standards and a further 1,331 standards recommended for adoption. SAC also aims to revise an additional 1,141 national standards, which deal with quality factors, and 1,322 industry standards intended for business operations. Many of these changes will affect export documentation requirements.

The complexity of documentation requirements make it vital for U.S. exporters to work closely with their Chinese importers to ensure that all documentation requirements are met before shipping. Failure to do so could result in delays in product entering the country or even a rejection at the border.

Export Certification Requirement Examples

The requirements listed in the table in the following section are provided as a representative sample of products that have been identified as having excellent prospects in the Chinese market. Apart from these specific 'attestations' which refer only to export certification requirements, products must meet a range of other criteria specific to each commodity which may include, but are not limited to: packaging requirements, pre-clearance (if applicable), treatment options, and container conditions. A large amount of additional information may be required for each shipment. Example copies of certificates are not available as they differ for each product and are subject to change.

Products	Title of Certificate	Attestation Required on Certificate	Purpose	Requesting Ministry
Milk and Milk Products	AMS Export Sanitary Certificate	"Product has been heat treated and conforms to processing requirements of country.	Sanitary Certificate	AQSIQ
Dairy Products for Feed	APHIS Export Health Certificate	Certifies that the U.S. is free of animal diseases such as rinderpest, foot and mouth disease, and contagious bovine pleuropneumonia.	Health Certificate	AQSIQ
Milk and Milk Products	Certificate of Origin	Certifies origin of dairy imports.	Product Origin	AQSIQ
Frozen Potatoes/ Processed Products	AMS Export Certificate	Export certificates for frozen potatoes, fries, and flakes require a certificate from AMS that authenticates quality and industry standards.	Product Quality	AQSIQ
Fresh Fruits & Vegetables, Tree Nuts, & Forest Products	Phytosanitary Certificate	Varies by product. Certifies product is free of quarantine pests. (Note: for apples, the shipment must also show proof that cold treatment was applied)	Plant Health	AQSIQ
Fresh Fruits & Vegetables, Tree Nuts	Certificate of Origin	Varies by product. State Chamber of Commerce certifies product originates from China-approved growing sites.	Product Origin	AQSIQ
Tree Nuts	Heat treatment Certificate	Third party or packer certifies packing material has been properly treated (if packed in wood).	Plant Health	AQSIQ
Tree Nuts	Certificate of Quality	Processor or packer provides certificate authenticating quality and standards.	Product Quality	AQSIQ
Cotton	APHIS Phytosanitary Certificate	Certifies cotton free of quarantine pests.	Plant Health	AQSIQ
Cotton	AMS Quality Classification	Certifies quality of cotton imports.	Product Quality	AQSIQ
Cotton	Certificate of Origin	Certifies origin of cotton imports.	Product Quality & Plant Health	AQSIQ
Poultry & Meat Products	FSIS Export Health Certificate	Certifies quality and safety of products.	Food Safety	AQSIQ
Poultry & Meat Products	Meat Quarantine Import Permit	Import Permit.	Import Control	AQSIQ
Poultry	Automatic Registration Form	Import Permit.	Import Control	MOFCOM
Imported Animal Feed	Imported Feed and Feed Additive Registration Regulation	Control imported feed and feed additives and to protect animal production safety. (Note: Entry quarantine should be done by AQSIQ)	Animal Health	MOA
Animal Genetic Materials	APHIS Export Health Certificate	Certifies animal health, and certifies BSE free for bovine genetic materials.	Animal Health	AQSIQ
Live Animals	APHIS Export Health Certificate	Certifies animal health. (Note: Cattle cannot be exported to China due to BSE-related restrictions.)		AQSIQ

Soybeans	APHIS Phytosanitary Certificate	Certifies soybeans free of quarantine pests.	Plant Health	AQSIQ
Soybeans	Biotech Safety Certificate	An MoA certificate is needed that indicates that the product "contains GMO's," proper labeling is also required for all biotech products.	Plant Health	MOA
Soybeans	FGIS Grain Inspection Service	Certifies product quality.	Product Quality	AQSIQ
Corn	APHIS Phytosanitary Certificate	Certify corn free of quarantine pests.	Plant Health	AQSIQ
Corn	Biotech Safety Certificate	An MoA certificate is needed that indicates that the product "contains GMO's," proper labeling is also required for all biotech products.	Plant Health	MOA
Corn	FGIS Grain Inspection Service	Certifies product quality.	Product Quality	AQSIQ
Fisheries	DOC Health Certificate	Certifies imported fishery products come from approved establishments, and free of pathogenic bacteria, harmful substances or foreign substances.	Health Certificate	AQSIQ
Wood and Wood Products	APHIS Phytosanitary Certificate	Certifies imported wood and wood products free of quarantine pests	Plant Health	AQSIQ
Wood and Wood Products	Certificate of Origin	Certifies origin of wood and wood product imports.	Product Origin	AQSIQ
Wood and Wood Products	Declaration of No-Wood Packing Materials	To certify that shipments do not contain wood packing materials, if requested.	Declaration	AQSIQ
Wood	Certificate of Fumigation	To certify only logs with bark that they are fumigated to prevent pests.	Plant Health	AQSIQ

SECTION II. PURPOSE OF SPECIFIC EXPORT CERTIFICATES

Until acceding to the World Trade Organization (WTO) in December 2001, China maintained a highly restrictive import regime for food and agricultural products. As a part of its WTO commitments, China reduced tariffs, established tariff rate quotas for commodities formerly under quantitative import restrictions, and pledged to reduce non-tariff barriers, including phytosanitary and sanitary restrictions. Many of these changes have affected export certification requirements. See table in Section I above for information on specific commodities.

SECTION III. SPECIFIC ATTESTATIONS REQUIRED ON EXPORT CERTIFICATES

The original export certificates should accompany each individual export consignment of the product at the time of entry into China. The government of China does not accept export declarations by suppliers or manufacturers as proof of compliance nor does it accept an export or phytosanitary certificate issued by a U.S. State. However, China will accept State-issued certificates of origin. In order to enter China, each certificate must match the container numbers in the shipment. The certification does not have length of validity or expiration per se - a new phytosanitary certificate must accompany each shipment.

For example, the original phytosanitary certificate must accompany each consignment of fresh fruits, vegetables, or tree nuts. China will only accept a valid APHIS phytosanitary certificate – a company declaration of compliance is not accepted. See table in Section I for examples of specific attestations that should meet all specific conditions. These conditions may change over time.

SECTION IV. GOVERNMENT CERTIFICATES LEGAL ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Apart from quarantine regulations, products being imported into China must also meet a number of other requirements. Details of these requirements are contained in the Food and Agriculture Import Regulations and Standards (FAIRS) report updated each year by this office. The most recent update was August 2007. The report can be downloaded on the FAS website by conducting a search for report number CH7066 at the following website: <http://www.fas.usda.gov/scriptsw/AttacheRep/default.asp>

SECTION V. OTHER CERTIFICATION/ACCREDITATION REQUIREMENTS

Certificate of Origin

For some products, China requires a certificate of origin, which is a document issued by the relevant authority of the exporting country's government, state government, industry association, or manufacturer/supplier. This certificate should accompany the export consignment of all food and agricultural products, including processed and packaged food.

This certificate should mention the order number, container number, port of discharge, buyer's name, and product description, in addition to a declaration along the following lines:

"The undersigned for (relevant organization) declares that the following mentioned goods as consigned above (or below) are the products of the United States of America (or any country of origin). We hereby certify the goods to be of United States of America (or any country) origin."

Quarantine Inspection Permit (QIP)

In order to import any agricultural good into China, a company must apply for a quarantine import permit to cover that contract amount. The importer must supply documentation regarding the volume of the shipment to AQSIQ with the QIP application. A QIP can technically cover multiple load/containers and is valid for six months.

In 2004, following repeated bilateral engagement and interventions made by the United States and other WTO members, some improvements were made to the QIP. In June 2004, AQSIQ issued Decree 73, *Items on Handling the Review and Approval for Entry Animal and Plant Quarantine* (GAIN CH4020). This regulation extended the validity period of QIPs from three months to six months. Though AQSIQ generally issues QIPs within established time lines, there remains a great deal of uncertainty. Even with the extended validity period, AQSIQ continues to administer the QIP system in a seemingly arbitrary manner and QIPs still locks purchasers into a very narrow period to purchase, transport and discharge cargos or containers. Please refer to CH7043 for more information.

Meat Quarantine Import Permit (MQIP)

In order to import any meat product into China, a company must apply for a meat quarantine import permit (MQIP) to cover that contract amount. The importer must supply documentation regarding the volume of the shipment to AQSIQ with the MQIP application. A MQIP can technically cover multiple load/containers and are valid for six months. An importer can have multiple outstanding MQIPs with different companies, but can have only one outstanding MQIP with a particular production plant. Please refer to CH7043 for more information.

Automatic Registration Form (ARF) on Poultry

In addition to the AQSIQ regulated MQIP, MOFCOM also administers a separate import permit system for poultry importers, the Automatic Registration Form (ARF), which allocates a specific volume amount to eligible importers. Currently, there are around 200 MOFCOM accredited importers that are eligible for ARF allocation. According to MOFCOM, there is currently no predetermined trade volume limiting the issuance of ARFs; virtually all traders who applied for an ARF in 2006 received one. Please refer to CH7043 for more information.

Biotech Product Labeling Policy

China's labeling regulations, governed by Ministry of Agriculture Decree 10 (CH7053), require approved agricultural biotech products be labeled and prohibits the importation and sale of any unlabeled or mislabeled products. The types of products listed are:

1. Soybean seed, soybeans, soybean powder, soybean oil and soybean meal;
2. Corn seeds, corn, corn oil and corn powder;
3. Rape seed for planting, rape seed, rape oil and rape meal;
4. Cotton seed;
5. Tomato seed, fresh tomato and tomato paste.

Decree 10 states that the reason for the regulation is "to strengthen the administration of GMO labeling, standardize the selling activities of agricultural GMOs, guide the production and consumption of GMOs and protect consumers' right to be informed." The regulations spell out the type of labeling required as well as the specific language that is required on the individual labels.

SECTION VI. OTHER RELEVANT REPORTS**FAS Beijing Reports**

[CH7066 – FAIRS Country Report - China](#)

[CH7053 - Agricultural GMO Implementation Measures](#)

[CH7043 - AQSIQ Quarantine Import Permit Changes](#)

[CH6821 - China Exporter Guide](#)

[CH6083 - Registration of Imported Feeds and Feed Additives](#)

[CH4020 - Items on Handling the Review and Approval for Entry Animal and Plant Quarantine](#)

Other Resources – U.S. Export Certifying Authorities

The U.S. issuing agencies are identified by their acronyms. Following is a list of these and the relevant websites of each agency for further information.

Food Safety and Inspection Service - USDA

Export Requirements for China:

http://www.fsis.usda.gov/regulations_&_policies/China_Requirements/index.asp

Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service - USDA

USDA International Animal Export Regulations:

<http://www.aphis.usda.gov/vs/ncie/iregs/animals/ch.html>

International Animal Product Export Regulations:

<http://www.aphis.usda.gov/vs/ncie/iregs/products/>

Export Services:

http://www.aphis.usda.gov/import_export/plants/plant_exports/

Federal Grain Inspection Service - USDA

Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration

www.usda.gov/gipsa/international/intl-services.htm

Food and Drug Administration – Health & Human Services

FDA Export Requirements

www.fda.gov/cber/gdlns/exptrcert.htm#iv


National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration – Commerce

National Marine Fisheries Export Services

<http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/sfa/PartnershipsCommunications/contactus.htm>

APPENDIX I. ELECTRONIC COPY OR OUTLINE OF EACH EXPORT CERTIFICATE

Meat Products Sanitary Certificate

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE FOOD SAFETY AND INSPECTION SERVICE FIELD OPERATIONS MEAT AND POULTRY EXPORT CERTIFICATE OF WHOLESALENES		A knowingly false entry or false alteration of any entry on this certificate may result in a fine of not more than \$10,000 or imprisonment for not more than five years or both (18 USC 1001). Additional penalties exist under the Federal Meat Inspection Act (21 USC 611 (b) (1), (2), and (5), 21 USC 676) and the Poultry Products Inspection Act (21 USC 458 (c) (1), (2), and (5), 21 USC 451) for an unauthorized or false alteration or misuse of this certificate.	
DISTRICT OFFICE	COUNTRY OF DESTINATION	DATE ISSUED	MPF -
EXPORTED BY 1/ (Applicant's name and address including ZIP Code)		PRODUCT EXPORTED FROM	
		EST. / PLANT NUMBER (if applicable)	
		CITY	
CONSIGNEE TO 1/ (Name and address including ZIP Code)		<input type="checkbox"/> @ SLAUGHTERING PLANT <input type="checkbox"/> @ PROCESSING PLANT <input type="checkbox"/> @ WAREHOUSE <input type="checkbox"/> @ DOCKSIDE	
TOTAL MARKED NET WEIGHT	TOTAL CONTAINERS		
PRODUCT AS LABELED	MARKED WEIGHT OF LOT	NUMBER OF LOTS	SHIPMENT MARKS
1/ As stated by applicant or contractor			
REMARKS			
<input type="checkbox"/> I CERTIFY that the meat or meat food product specified hereon is from animals that received both antemortem and postmortem inspection and were found sound and healthy and that it has been inspected and passed as provided by law and regulations of the Department and is sound and wholesome.			
<input type="checkbox"/> I CERTIFY that the poultry and poultry products specified above came from birds that were officially given an antemortem and postmortem inspection and passed in accordance with applicable laws and regulations of the United States Department of Agriculture and are wholesome and fit for human consumption.			
NOT VALID UNLESS SIGNED BY AN INSPECTOR OF MEAT AND POULTRY INSPECTION PROGRAM			
By order of the Secretary of Agriculture		INSPECTOR AND DISTRICT	
This certificate is receivable in all courts of the United States as prima facie evidence of the truth of the statements therein contained. This certificate does not excuse failure to comply with any of the regulatory laws enforced by the United States Department of Agriculture.			
FSIS FORM 9060-5 (07/19/2001) REPLACES FSIS FORM 9060-5 (06/06/1999), WHICH MAY BE USED UNTIL EXHAUSTED. Designed on FormFlow Software.			
ORIGINAL			

Plant Products Phytosanitary Certificate

No phytosanitary certificate can be issued until an application is submitted (7 CFR 301).

See reverse for additional OMB information.

FORM APPROVED
OMB NO. 5975-0062

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
ANIMAL AND PLANT HEALTH INSPECTION SERVICE
PLANT PROTECTION AND QUARANTINE

PHYTOSANITARY CERTIFICATE

TO: THE PLANT PROTECTION ORGANIZATION(S) OF
SAMPLE

PLACE OF ISSUE: **SAMPLE**

NO: **FPC XXXXXXXX**

DATE INSPECTED:

CERTIFICATION

This is to certify that the plants, plant product or other regulated articles described herein have been inspected and/or tested according to appropriate official procedures and are considered to be free from the quarantine pests, specified by the importing contracting party and to conform with the current phytosanitary requirements of the importing contracting party including those for regulated non-quarantine pests.

DISINFESTATION AND/OR DISINFECTION TREATMENT

1. DATE: 2. TREATMENT:

3. CHEMICAL active ingredient: 4. DURATION AND TEMPERATURE:

5. CONCENTRATION: 6. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

DESCRIPTION OF THE CONSIGNMENT

7. NAME AND ADDRESS OF THE EXPORTER: 8. DECLARED NAME AND ADDRESS OF THE CONSIGNEE:

9. NAME OF PRODUCT AND QUANTITY DECLARED: 10. BOTANICAL NAME OF PLANTS:

11. NUMBER AND DESCRIPTION OF PACKAGES: 12. VARIETY OR CULTIVAR:

13. PLACE OF ORIGIN: 14. DECLARED MEANS OF CONFINEMENT:

15. DECLARED POINT OF ENTRY:

WARNING: Any alteration, forgery, or unauthorized use of this phytosanitary certificate is subject to civil penalties of up to \$250,000 (7 U.S.C. Section 7734a) or punishable by a fine of not more than \$10,000, or imprisonment of not more than 5 years, or both (18 U.S.C. Section 1011).

ADDITIONAL DECLARATION

16. DATE ISSUED: 17. NAME OF AUTHORIZED OFFICER (Type or Print): 18. SIGNATURE OF AUTHORIZED OFFICER:

No liability shall attach to the United States Department of Agriculture or to any officer or representative of the Department with respect to this certificate.

PHI 10/09/01 10/09/01 Previous editions are obsolete after 6/30/01

PART 1 - SHIPPER'S ORIGINAL

APHIS Animal Health Certificate

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE ANIMAL AND PLANT HEALTH INSPECTION SERVICE Health Certificate EXPORT CERTIFICATE Animal Products	FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY PORT DATE AND NO.
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This is to certify that rinderpest, foot-and-mouth disease, hog cholera, swine vesicular disease, African swine fever, bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE), and contagious bovine pleuropneumonia do not exist in the United States of America.

ADDITIONAL DECLARATION



SAMPLE ONLY

(SIGNATURE OF ENDORSING OFFICIAL) (TYPED NAME) (TITLE OF ENDORSING OFFICIAL)

DESCRIPTION OF THE CONSIGNMENT

NAME AND ADDRESS OF EXPORTER	NAME AND ADDRESS OF CONSIGNEE
PRODUCT (Quantity, unit of measure and kind)	
IDENTIFICATION	CONVEYANCE

No liability shall attach to the United States Department of Agriculture or to any officer or representative of the Department with respect to this certificate.

VS FORM 16-4

APHIS' United States Origin Health Certificate (Form VS 17-140).

Federal agencies other than APHIS are also involved in providing certificates for the export of animal products. Some examples are indicated below.

AMS Dairy Certificate

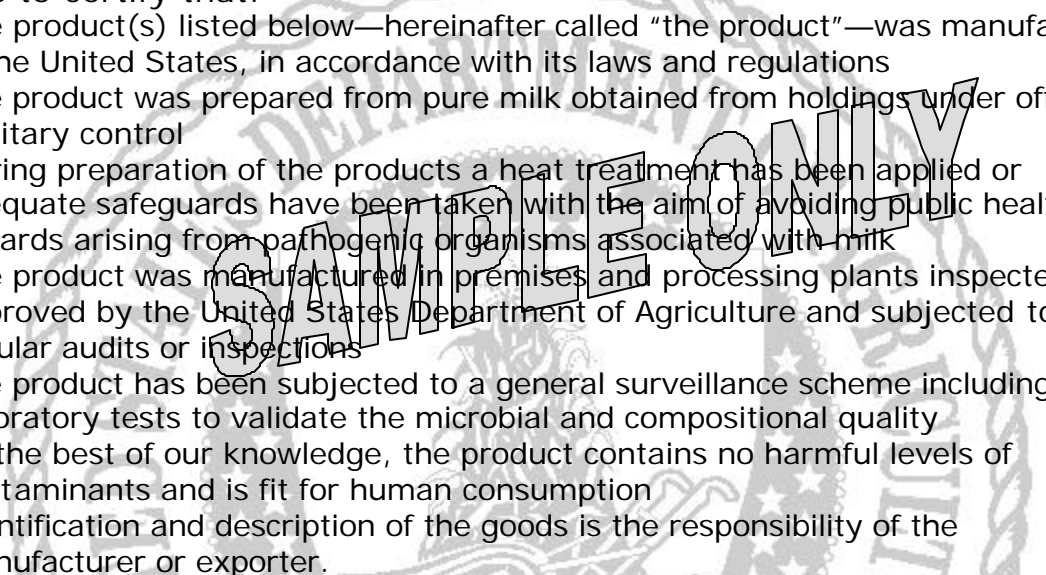
October 26, 2007

To whom it may concern

With regard to: , plant number

For the period to .

This is to certify that:

- 
- (1) The product(s) listed below—hereinafter called “the product”—was manufactured in the United States, in accordance with its laws and regulations
 - (2) The product was prepared from pure milk obtained from holdings under official sanitary control
 - (3) During preparation of the products a heat treatment has been applied or adequate safeguards have been taken with the aim of avoiding public health hazards arising from pathogenic organisms associated with milk
 - (4) The product was manufactured in premises and processing plants inspected and approved by the United States Department of Agriculture and subjected to regular audits or inspections
 - (5) The product has been subjected to a general surveillance scheme including laboratory tests to validate the microbial and compositional quality
 - (6) To the best of our knowledge, the product contains no harmful levels of contaminants and is fit for human consumption
 - (7) Identification and description of the goods is the responsibility of the manufacturer or exporter.

Products covered by this letter:

Sincerely,

SIGNED

USDA AMS DGB

Processed Plant Products Certificate

According to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number. The valid OMB control number for this information collection is 0579-0052. The time required to complete this information collection is estimated to average .03 hours per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information.

FORM APPROVED
OMB NO. 0579-0052

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
ANIMAL AND PLANT HEALTH INSPECTION SERVICE
PLANT PROTECTION AND QUARANTINE

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

EXPORT CERTIFICATE
PROCESSED PLANT PRODUCTS

PLACE

SAMPLE

DATE:

NUMBER: P XXXXXX

NAME AND ADDRESS OF EXPORTER

NAME AND ADDRESS OF CONSIGNEE

SAMPLE

SAMPLE

MEANS OF CONVEYANCE

POINT OF ENTRY

DESCRIPTION OF CONSIGNMENT

PRODUCT (Kind, Quantity, and Weight)

SAMPLE

SAMPLE

IDENTIFICATION

SAMPLE

ORIGIN

WARNING: Any alteration, forgery, or unauthorized use of this phytosanitary certificate is subject to civil penalties of up to \$250,000 (7 U.S.C. Section 7734(b)) or punishable by a fine of not more than \$10,000, or imprisonment of not more than 5 years, or both (18 U.S.C. Section 1001).

This is to affirm that, based upon inspection of submitted samples and/or by virtue of processing received, the plant products described above are believed to be free from injurious plant pests.



SAMPLE

NAME OF AUTHORIZED OFFICER

SAMPLE

SIGNATURE

No liability shall attach to the United States Department of Agriculture or to any officer or representative of the Department with respect to this certificate.

PPQ FORM 576 FEB 2001

Previous editions are obsolete after 6/30/01

PART 1 - SHIPPER'S ORIGINAL